

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CALGAR 00177 292012Z

41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 /070 W

----- 078749

R 291935Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL CALGARY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1642

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS CALGARY 177

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT, CA

SUBJ: WESTERN PREMIERS MEET AT MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA

1. THE PREMIERS OF THE FOUR WESTERN PROVINCES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, ALBERTA, MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN OPENED A TWO-DAY SESSION WEDNESDAY AT MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA. THIS IS THEIR FIRST MEETING SINCE 1974.

2. NO AGENDA HAS BEEN RELEASED FOR THE MEETINGS. PREMIER PETER LOUGHEED, THE HOST, HAS BEEN MORE EXPLICIT IN IDENTIFYING SUBJECTS THAT WILL NOT BE TAKEN UP RATHER THAN LISTING THOSE THAT WILL BE DISCUSSED. LOUGHEED SAYS HE DOES NOT EXPECT THE PACIFIC WESTERN AIRLINES MOVE TO BE BROUGHT UP, AND OTHER MATTERS OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WESTERN PROVINCES ALSO WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED AT THIS TIME. LOUGHEED ALSO HAS SAID THAT ENERGY PROBLEMS WILL NOT BE INCLUDED, DESPITE A NEW FEDERAL POLICY, AN UNRESOLVED CRUDE OIL PRICE, AND THE PRESSURES OF THREE ENERGY PRODUCING PROVINCES.

3. ONE OF THE SUBJECTS OBVIOUSLY ON THE AGENDA - RAILWAY FREIGHT RATES - RESULTED IN A PRESS COMMUNIQUE BEING RELEASED BY THE PREMIERS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE WEDNESDAY SESSION. IT DREW UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CALGAR 00177 292012Z

ATTENTION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS ASSURANCE THAT THE WEST

WOULD BE GIVEN A BREAK IN FREIGHT RATES, AS PROMISED IN THE 1973 WESTERN ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES CONFERENCE IN CALGARY. THE PREMIERS REPORTED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD BACKED AWAY FROM THIS COMMITMENT, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF PRESSURES BROUGHT BY THE TWO NATIONAL RAILWAYS. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THE PREMIERS MET WITH JUSTICE EMMETT HALL, CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION AND GRAIN HANDLING COMMISSION, AND EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF RAILWAY BEDS AND THE CONCERN OF THE WESTERN PROVINCES OVER POSSIBLE CURTAILEMENT OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION AND PROPOSED CHANGES IN LEGISLATION GOVERNING COASTAL SHIPPING.

4. THE PREMIERS REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN BRINGING HOME THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION AND VARIOUS FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COT SHARING PROGRAMS, BUT THESE SUBJECTS WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE FIRST DAY COMMUNIQUE.

5. IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS, ALBERTA'S PETER LOUGHEED WOULD SIT AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE WITH THREE NEW DEMOCRATS. SINCE THEN, FORMER BRITISH COLUMBIA PREMIER DAVE BARRETT HAS BEEN DEFEATED, AND THE WESTERN

PREMIER LINEUP NOW READS: ALBERTA - LOUGHEED (PC), MANITOBA - SCHREYER (NDP), SASKATCHEWAN - BLAKENEY (NDP), AND BRITISH COLUMBIA - BENNETT (SC).
HALL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CALGAR00177
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760164-1053
From: CALGARY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976049/aaaaagqd.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WESTERN PREMIERS MEET AT MEDICINE HAT, ALBERTA
TAGS: PINT, CA, (LOUGHEED, PETER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006